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Remarks:
Please prepare response for DCI's signature.

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United States Department of the Interior

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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Honorable William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

Thank you for your letter commenting on the World Energy Resources Program of the U.S. Geological Survey and your expression of support for the basic geologic research and associated analyses. We are always gratified to learn of the positive use of our program efforts and value the realization that effective program coordination is taking place between executive branch agencies.

It is true that we have been unable to fund the World Energy Resources Program in the face of budget constraints and other mandated programs of the Department of the Interior. We are aware, however from earlier correspondence, of the significance that you attach to our program. Unfortunately, it is late in our budget process, and if we are to continue the program for FY 1983, it may be necessary to explore, with your help, the possibility of financial assistance from other agencies.

If there is to be program continuity of an interagency nature, then there must as well be a cooperative budgetary policy to support such program activities. Any program activity must be managed and funded by the Geological Survey at a level consistent with our own scientific and resource interests. To the extent that other agency interests are identical to our own, coordination can be effected without consideration of reimbursement. To the extent, however, that program expansion is required to serve the special interests of other agencies, then some form of reimbursable mechanism would be appropriate.

In addition, we would like to ensure, for the future, that our coordination is sufficient at appropriate levels with each of the involved agencies to gain maximum program effectiveness.

Not referred to DOI. Waiver applies.

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Honorable William J. Casey

Accordingly, if you so desire, you may wish to develop parameters that will aid us in designing the program to serve better the full range of needs of Government. We appreciate that informal program ties already exist, but considering the importance of this program to your Agency and to the Nation, we think a more formal mechanism may be warranted.

Thank you, Bill, for calling our attention to this issue. We apologize for the delay in responding to you and trust that we can work out satisfactory program and budgetary relations.

SICRETARY